Celebrating the Life of

Elder Gordon W. Choyce, II

August 22, 1973 - July 6, 2009



Saturday, July 18, 2009 - 10:00 a.m.

Glad Tidings Church of God in Christ
27689 Tyrrell Avenue, Hayward, CA 94544

Eulogist ~ Bishop J. W. Macklin, Second Assistant Presiding Bishop, C.O.G.I.C.
Officiants ~ Bishop Donald R. Murray, Prelate of California North Central Jurisdiction
Bishop Anthony L. Willis, Lily of The Valley Christian Center, Oakland, CA

Obituary

The amazing life of Elder Gordon W. Choyce II, began in Berkeley, CA, on August 22, 1973. The first son of Sharon and Reverend Dr. Gordon W. Choyce Sr., Gordon was adored by his family and friends who lovingly called him "Gordie." As a young child, he and his brother Dionne and sister Kara, dutifully attended church on each Sunday with their parents, which served as the cornerstone of Gordon's devotion to high moral values, educational achievement, hard work, and his inevitable calling to spread the love of Jesus Christ to the world through ministry.

Gordon was raised in Richmond, CA were he attended El Portal Elementary School, Helms and Juan Crespi Jr. High School, as well as De Anza and Salesian High School. Gordon was a scholar and an athlete. In the classroom, there may have been students smarter than him, and on the field, there may have been players faster than him, but no one was going to out work Gordon. His work ethic was unmatched and once he put his mind to completing a task, it usually turned out to be a masterpiece.

As a young boy, Gordon worked several jobs. At the age of 14, he worked as a waiter at his Grandparents restaurant, Choyce's Soul Food. He also worked as a newspaper delivery boy for the Contra Costa Times and as a courtesy clerk for Lucky's Store in Richmond. Gordon did whatever he could to earn extra money, and as would become apparent later in life, he also learned how to spend money. Over the years, Gordon developed his own unique and wonderful style and it manifested itself in his impeccable dress and grooming, stylish suits and signature ties.

Upon graduation from Salesian High School in 1991, Gordon attended Morehouse College in Atlanta, GA, where he received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration with an emphasis in Finance and Marketing. While in college, he tutored students in the business mechanics of quantitative analysis. Upon returning home to California in 1996, he began his business career at the Clorox Company in Oakland, CA as a Financial Analyst.

On October 3, 1996, Gordon and LeChieta Williams became the proud parents of Kalyn Choyce. Gordon was truly a loving and caring father, and got great pleasure from watching his son play basketball and excel in academics.

During his time at Clorox, Gordon quickly worked his way up the corporate ladder. He was on his way to a life of corporate success, but he truly believed in his heart that this was a selfish and carnal existence. One day he heard the voice of the Lord tell him to leave the successful career, and the money, to help undergird the ministry at the Missionary Church of God in Christ in Berkeley, CA where his father and mother were serving God's people as Pastor and First Lady. The voice was so strong, so enlightening and so comforting that he had no anxiety about the decision.

Before embarking on the journey that laid before him, he prayed to God and asked that the Lord would take him to places where he would "forever learn and find truth by spreading salvation to the world." Gordon's ministry was too large for the four walls of the church and he found himself working in several communities developing homes for the elderly, shelters for the homeless, creating computer and literacy programs for the youth and helping to develop programs for individuals suffering from alcohol and drug abuse.

Gordon was ordained as an Elder in 2001. Although a relatively young preacher, Gordon delivered the word of God with passion and wisdom. He had a special word for the youth of the community where he touched many young men and women struggling to find their purpose and destiny in God. As Gordon grew in ministry, God blessed him to meet, fall in love and marry Lisa Felix in 2005. Gordon also was blessed with a gift in community and real estate development. He created a real estate and development company, Landmark Ventures, where he directed all activities related to the design, entitlement and development of several residential, commercial and mixed-used construction projects averaging $6 to $35 million dollars.

Gordon had such a strong desire and hunger to increase his knowledge and depth in the word of God. He recently returned to school attending Fuller Theological Seminary in San Mateo, California, where he had aspirations to attain a Doctorate Degree in Theology and Religion.

Sadly, the amazing life of Elder Gordon W. Choyce, II was cut short on Monday, July 6, 2009. We have lost a great person on earth, but God needed him more! Although Gordon will be missed dearly, we now humbly submit and say YES to the will of our Father God.

His Family, His Life, His Legacy

GORDON WAS PRECEDED IN DEATH BY:

His Grandparents
Hattie and James T. Choyce Sr., Bernice Morrow and Otis Logan
Uncle
James T. Choyce, II
Cousins
Jovan Strassner and Maurice Robertson

GORDON LEAVES TO MOURN HIS PASSING:

His Beautiful Son
Kalyn Joshua Choyce
Kalyn's mother and friend, LeChieta Williams

His Parents
Sharon and Reverend Dr. Gordon W. Choyce, Sr.

His Siblings
Dionne E. Choyce and (Wife) Michelle Tong Choyce, Kara A. Choyce,
Jason Huey and (Wife) Crystal Huey

Aunts and Uncles
Mrs. Katheryn Linyard, Pastor Orvelester and First Lady Judy Strassner
Deacon Odest and Reverend Dee Dee Logan, Bruce Choyce,
Ennis "Pugu" Choyce and (wife) Zirtha "Paula" Choyce,
Lee and Mark Morrow, Charlene Adams (aunt)

Nieces and Nephews
Donald W. Palmer Jr., Tyanna Choyce, James Choyce-White and Brenea Palmer

Cousins
Winston Choyce and (Wife), Danita, Victor and Danielle Hunt, Tori and Torelle Logan, Ivory Choyce,
James T. Choyce, III, Jahcoby Adam-Mabin, Felicia N. Lee, Jerald Ray Choyce, Kristen Choyce,
Erica Choyce, Sandra Choyce, Ernest Choyce, Dontrell and Rosa Strassner, Devron Strassner,
Morgan and Jannett Smith, Terry Choyce, Akila (Laura) Banjo, Gracia and Sophia Choyce

God Daughter
Niara Hisani Phillips

God Sister
Lalisha Norton

Childhood and Best Friends
Daniel Watt, Tyme Brown, Brian Taylor,
Charleton Lightfoot and Romacio Fulcher

Order of Service

Saturday, July 18, 2009 10:00 AM
Masters of Ceremony
Bishop Donald R. Murray and Bishop Anthony L. Willis

Processional..... "Hallelujah Anyhow" ..... Clergy, Family, Missionary Family

Scripture Readings

Old Testament ..... Pastor Brondon Rheems, Center of Hope, Oakland, CA
New Testament..... Pastor George Murray
City of Refuge C.O.G.I.C., Oakland, CA

Invocation..... Bishop Melvin Scott

Praise and Worship Celebration ..... "Precious Jesus" ..... Kevin Moore
Reign Gospel Group

Missionary Church Expressions **(Two Minutes Only)**

Youth Ministry - Sister Faris Wallace
Minister's In Training - Sister LaLisha Norton

Selection..... I'll Trust You" ..... Memorial Singers

Special Expressions **(Two Minutes Only)**

Don Yost - Personal Friend
Minister Charleton Lightfoot - Comrades in Arms
Kirk Lykes - Friend in Ministry
Pastor Anthony Summers, Impact Ministries, Vallejo, CA - Mentor
City of Berkeley - Proclamation
Keith Carson, Alameda County Supervisor - Commendation

Solo Selection..... "Jesus Is the Best Thing that ever Happened"
Bro. Donnell Garrett

Expressions **(One Minute Only)**

Friends, Business Associates and Co-Workers
Special Poem - Chuck Hawkins

Selection ..... "My Name is Victory" ..... Memorial Choir

Clergy Expressions ..... Pulpit

Instrumental Selection ..... Daniel Parenti

Acknowledgement of Cards and Condolences ..... Mother Farine Lee
Supervisor of Women, Calif. North Central Jurisdiction

Family Expressions ..... Choyce Family

Solo Selection ..... "Praise is What I Do" ..... Pastor Albert Macklin

Resolutions ..... Supt. Jerald Simpkins
Nor Cal Jurisdictional Executive Secretary

Special Presentation ..... "Dear Old Morehouse" ..... San Francisco Bay Area
Morehouse College Alumni Association

Obituary ..... Pastor Mark Clifton
East Oakland COGIC, Oakland, CA

Sermonic Selection ..... "Lift Me Up" ..... Sis. Pam Sharp

Words of expression and Introduction of Eulogist ..... Supt. Joe Nobles
First Assistant, Nor Cal Jurisdiction

Eulogy ..... Bishop Jerry W. Macklin
Second Assistant Presiding Bishop, COGIC
Prelate, Nor Cal Jurisdiction

Parting View ..... Fouche's Hudson Funeral Home, In Charge

Processional

"Please return to your cars immediately following the Service"

Interment ~ Rolling Hills Memorial Park
Richmond, California

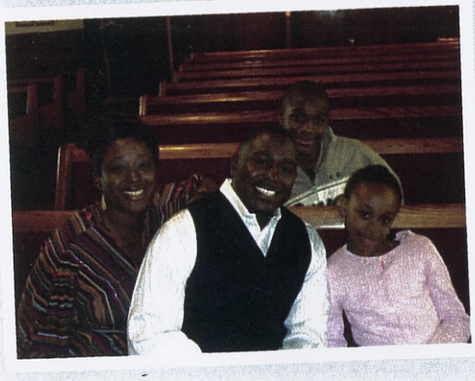
Family Love



My Oldest Brother...words and emotions are many. I don't understand why but I do understand what impact you have made on my life and others. One thing I promise you Gordon..your ministry and the love you had for people will live on. I will love harder, and press harder, and I be about my Father's business. Enjoy the presence of the Lord.
Your ONLY sister.....Kara....



Dear brother,
I miss you. I love you. I hope you know I have always looked up to you since I was a child. I admired your commitment to the Lord and knew you were a true man of God. I take comfort in knowing you are at peace and resting in God's arms. I will keep you in my heart forever.
Love, Dionne



Dad - you were the best father a kid could have. You taught me so many things at an early age. Thank you for always coming to my basketball games, taking me to church and helping me learn about God. I am going to miss you so much. I will always love you forever.

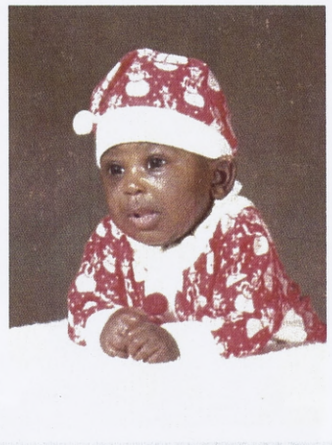
Love, Kalyn



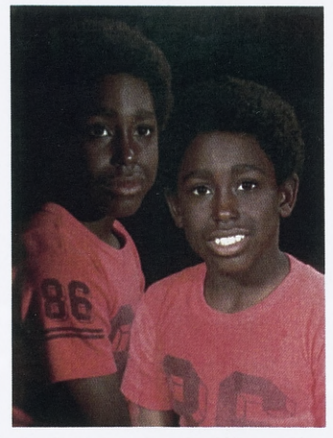
Gordie through the years...



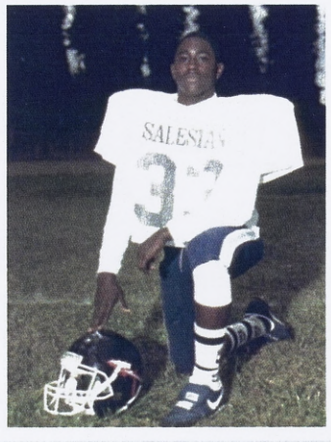
Before I formed you in the womb
I knew you, before you were born
I set you apart - Jeremiah 1:5



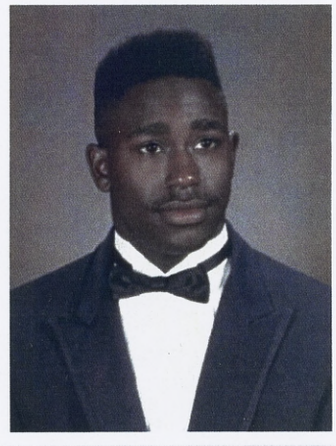
First Christmas



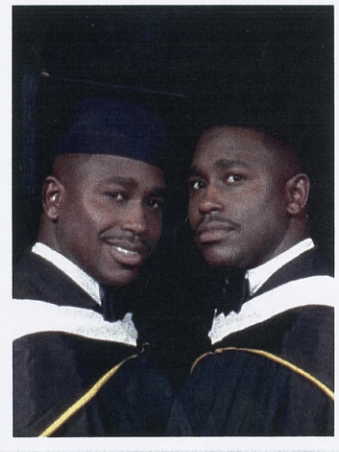
Kalyn looks just like Daddy



Football star



High School graduation 1991



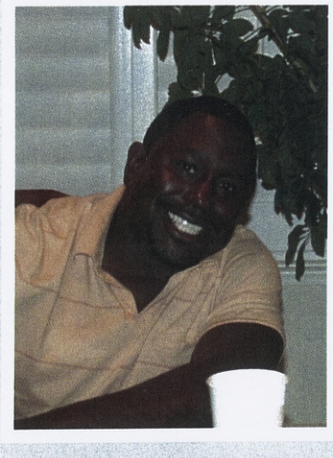
Morehouse Graduation 1996



Europe vacation August, 2007

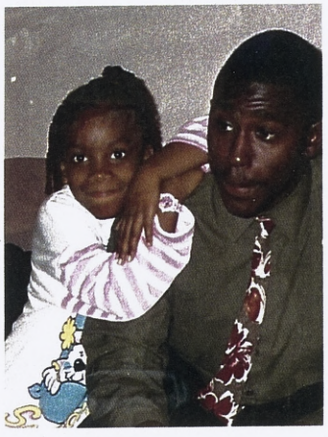


Easter 2009



Father's Day
June 20, 2009

I Will Never Leave You, Nor Forsake You



Cousin Danielle and Gordie



LeChieta and Gordie



Grandmother Morrow



Gordie and
Sister-in-law Michelle



Momma and Gordie



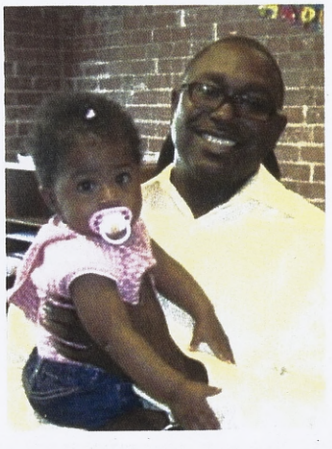
Nephew James,
Niece Tyanna and Gordie



Gordie and Aunt Judy

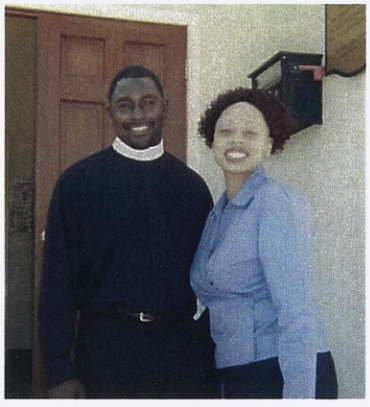


Gordie and Baby Kalyn



Gordie and Godbaby Niara

Friends & Loved Ones



Gordie and Danni



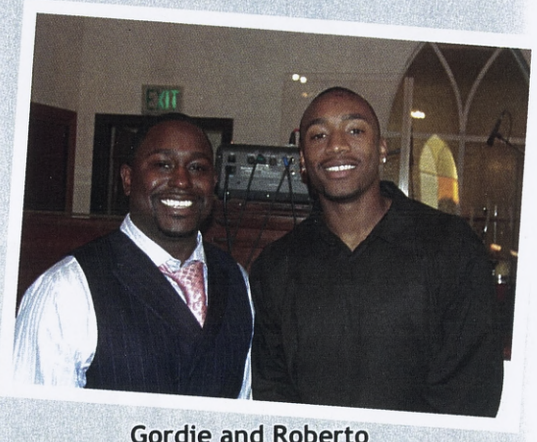
Dylan, Gordie, Dionne and Tyme



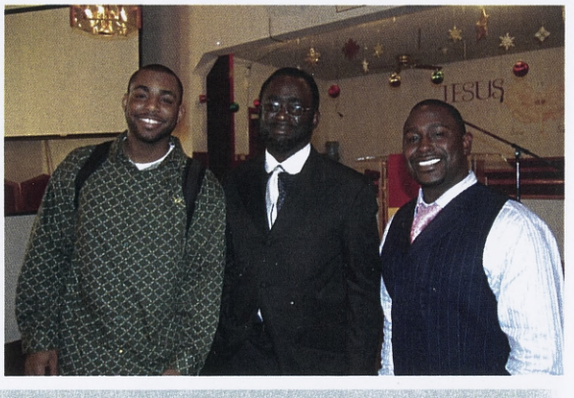
Charleton and Gordie



Niece Tyanna, Brother Dionne, Nephew James, Cousin Kendall, Gordie, Kara, Cousin Jannett and Cousin Danita



Gordie and Roberto



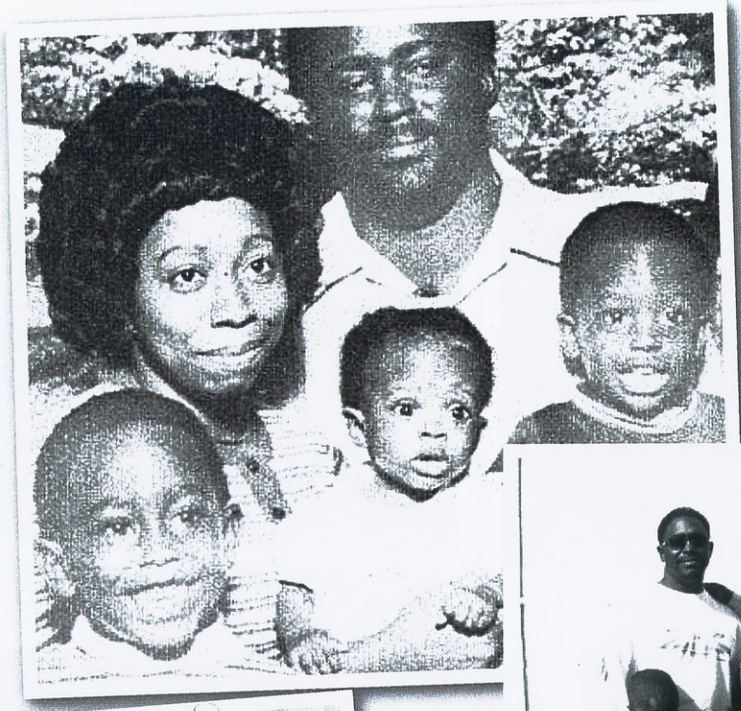
Kevin, Pastor Choyce and Gordie



Kevin Matthews, Musicians friends from LA, Charleton and Gordie



Gordie, Dionne, Tyme and Romacio

















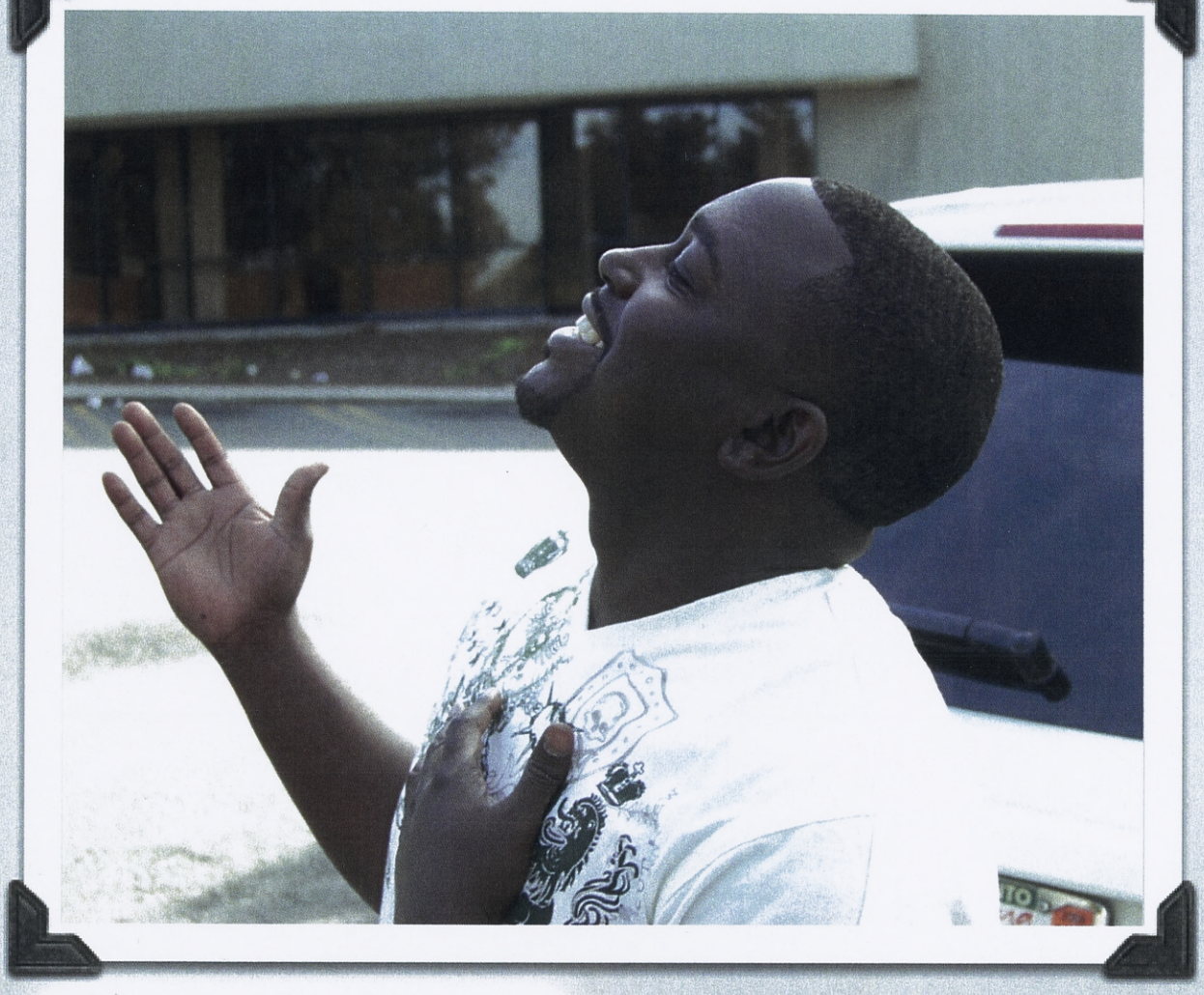




One of the most memorable thoughts for any family who suffers a loss of this magnitude, is the thoughts and deeds that are shown with a prayer, a dish, pleasant words of encouragement, an arrangement of flowers, helping to keep things tidy, or sitting quietly reflecting on our journey ahead. However, you ministered to our family and Gordie's friends during our tremendous time of loss; we would like you to know how deeply we will treasure every immeasurable thought and act of love and kindness on our behalf.

Love, The Choyce Family

Praise is What I do



You can use the Word to preach more than you know. Salvation is a hidden mystery with treasures that are hidden deep in the knowledge of salvation. Your healing, deliverance, wealth, prosperity, recovery, victory, overcoming power are in salvation.

The thoughts that God gives are keys to unlocking many doors.

I will sing to the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have any being.
May my meditation be sweet to Him; as for me, I will rejoice in the Lord.
Psalm 104:33-34
(Amplified Bible)

- written by Gordon W. Choyce, II

Pallbearers

Active

Daniel Watt
John Andrews
Kevin McGlothen
Romacio Fulcher
Larry Fields
Roberto McBean

Honorary

Dionne E. Choyce
Jason Huey
Charleton Lightfoot
James T. Choyce, III
Victor Hunt
Charles Lightfoot, III
Tyme Brown
Pastor Michael McBride
Chuck Hawkins

Compliments

Interment

Rolling Hills Memorial Park - Richmond, CA

Funeral Arrangements

Fouche's Hudson Funeral Home - 3665 Telegraph Avenue, Oakland, CA 94609

Transportation and Escort

Peaceful Journey, 580 Grand Avenue, Oakland, CA 94704

Flowers

2008 University Avenue, Berkeley, CA 94704

Repass

Missionary COGIC Church Family, Berkeley, CA
Eastside COGIC Church Family, Stockton, CA

Services

Glad Tidings, 27689 Tyrrell Avenue, Hayward, CA 94544 (510) 783-9377

Program Design

Michelle Tong Choyce, Gordon's Sister-in-Law
Rob Sammons, RDS Marketing Group, Fremont, CA

Printing

Bishop J.W. Macklin, Glad Tidings Church of God in Christ, Hayward, CA

The Choyce family has established a trust for Gordon's only son, Kalyn, age 12. If you would like to make a donation to support his future, please make donations out to Kalyn Choyce and mail to Missionary Church, 1125 Allston Way, Berkeley, CA 94702.

We acknowledge and appreciate the following: the attending medical staff for the services, the musical and vocal support and Bishop J.W. Macklin and the Nor Cal Jurisdiction for your love and support.